









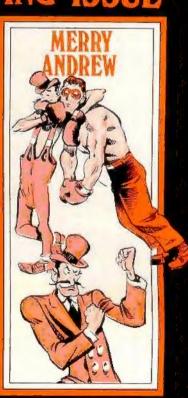
STEENER ESSNER

EIGHT BIG STORIES IN THIS EXCITING ISSUE











A slashed and aplintered Spirit prepares to pounce upon the persimonious Powder Pouf. Sneering disapproval is the criminal 'Bleak.' By Will Eisner.

Publisher JAMES WARREN

> Editor-In-Chief WILL EISNER

W.B. DuBAY

Production W.R. MOHALLEY

WILL EISNER

Cover Color BILL DuBAY

Created, Written & Illustrated by WILL EISNER

Circulation Director
AB SIDEMAN

Marketing Director JEFF ROVIN

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CONTENTS ISSUE NO. 2 JUNE 1974

- HEEL SCALLOPINI Fog laid heavy over Central City...heavy as the hearts that dwelt therein. Elections were over, a heel had won. And something in the air smelled fishy!
- POWDER POUF Her name was Powder, and like her namesake, she was deadly and explosive... ready to entrap anyone in her treacherous web of crime. Even THE SPIRIT!
- FALLEN SPARROW Bleak had served his sentence. Now he was free... free to rush into the arms of his childhood sweetheart. He didn't know that she was as crooked as he!
- MERRY ANDREW There's a tale of a man with a blow, mighty enough to lay THE SPIRIT low! But how and why could this be, when Merry Andrew was only five foot three?
- MORTIMER J. TITMOUSE Mortimer was a janitor. And he had a big secret. He claimed he could build a bomb capable of destroying the world. And he would have a blast!
- THE O'DOLAN They say there's a treasure in the haunted O'Dolan house...a treasure guarded by ghosts! But they don't say how many SPIRITS prowl the decrepit manse!
 - UFO Down from the sky it floated ... straight into the Central City junkyard. Out came a strange little man, in search of an aspiring actor. An actor who claimed he saw men from Mars!
- SILKEN FLOSS, MD THE SPIRIT had two choices. He could die from the poison raking his body... or pay for the antidote within his reach, by marrying Silken Floss!

CONCERNING OUR MAIL ORDER ADVERTISEMENTS: Warren Publishing Co. guarantees the delivery and satisfaction of all items advertised in this issue. Should you need to write us concerning an order, whether it be from our address or a Post Office Box address, send your letter to: E.C. Ives, Customer Service Dept., Warren Publishing Co., 145 E. 32nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016.

ust saw the first issue of THE SPIRIT, and I think you've done a fine job and have a winner for sure!

Kudos to Kid Corben's col-

ALEX TOTH Los Angeles, Calif.

Our thanks to one of the all-time great comic book artists!

My congratulations to Jim Warren for having the good judgment and good taste to present this Will Eisner look. Eisner is one of my top three all-time favorite artists . . . and also my first employer.
WALLY WOOD

New York, N.Y.

"Will Eisner reminds us what comics should be!"

I've just finished the first issue of THE SPIRIT and I must say I enjoyed reading it. In plain words, it was great!
I read the other Warren

magazines whenever I get the chance to buy one.

I was wondering if you are planning to give us the origin of THE SPIRIT in a future is-

> **GLEN AHRENS** Palatine, III.

(Sept We have no such plans at the present time. The origin of our masked crimefighter is recounted in SPIRIT BAG #1, the ad for which can be found on page 66 of this magazine.

Finally, Will Eisner is back on the scene to teach us how to draw and tell a comic book story. For those new to comics, his approach is fresh and original. For those who have forgotten, his unique style is a gentle reminder of the way comics should be!

> **NEAL ADAMS** New York, N.Y.

Words like these are the supreme compliment, coming from one of the most talented and respected men drawing comics today.

When I first heard the ru-mor that Warren Publishing would be embarking on a new project, I was excited. All kinds of thoughts raced through my head. Like maybe this would be the long-hinted at, longer-awaited Wally Wood sword and sorcery project. Or perhaps it would be another of your traditional magazines. with little nephew Gory bowing in. But all these things were not to be, it seems (barring any future change of mind).

Instead you have deemed it wise to resurrect a classic hero in The Shadow and Green Hornet mold, THE SPIRIT! And I can't say that I fault your thinking in the

Will Eisner has been enjoying a renewed following lately, with his underground comics and his fanzine edition of THE SPIRIT. It's really not very surprising that he should become associated with the number one (and best) comic

art publisher of the day! THE SPIRIT magazine is unique for Warren Publishing. This is the first time an established solo character has been given his own book. I've read much about THE SPIRIT in comics history texts. The character is almost as legendary as the man who created him. But what I've read just doesn't compare with what my own eyes have seen in the first issue of THE SPIRIT.

Eisner's splash pages are the most unique I've ever seen. He seems to be a man who loves to delve into new story-telling techniques. He also displays a bit of nerve, satirizing that which is (and was) popular, I applaud War-ren's decision to shove Mr. Eisner into the public eye. Maybe now, he will (again) receive the great adulation he deserves!

One final note, on the cover by Basil Gogos. It was a sensational imitation of Will Eisner, I was certain the painting was an Eisner original, but was pleasantly shocked when I learned it was Famous Monsters' own master of the moody macabre. Kudos to Mr. Gogos for branching out, and giving us even more of his boundless talents!

> GARY KIMBER Ontario, Canada

Thanks much for THE SPIR-IT. It's good to see the classics again after all these years!

> **BOB BLOCH** Los Angeles, Calif.

100 And it's good to hear such kind words from the author of PSYCHO!

Today, being January 29th, was probably just an ordinary day for a billion or two people. But not for me. The reason? Well, it may not be ob-vious to you, but THE SPIRIT came to my newsstand.

I could tell you the mag is magnificent, but that goes without saying. I could give you a whole magilla on the historical significance of the 'marriage' between comic strip and comic magazine, but won't. I could also state that Publisher James Warren is a pretty smart cookie for arranging to bring THE SPIRIT back. Or I could write a storyby-story analysis, but what would that prove? (Aside: "The Killer" was easily my favorite!)

All I really can say is that THE SPIRIT is the most refreshing and original black and white magazine to hit the stands since VAMPIRELLA a few years back, and its easily worth the greenback I spent

In a world where the comic racks are bubbling over with a million and one 'monster magazines,' THE SPIRIT is an excellent change of pace.

But what else can you ex-pect when Will Eisner and Warren Publishing team up?

Count me in as a regular supporter of this exciting. new, unique, and entertaining magazine.

STEVEN SCHEIBNER Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Not since EC's MAD made its initial appearance in the mid-fifties have I been so excited over the debut of a new comic as I was over THE SPIR-

It just arrived. I read it. loved it, and I thank you. My congratulations to Will Eisner, Bill DuBay, Rich Corben, and all the rest of your staff for a job well done.

Best of luck with the magazine. I hope it is so successful that it becomes a monthly in short order.

> **HUGH ABRAMSON** New York, N.Y.

Although I was born in 1947, I had never had the opportunity to see any of Will Eisner's stories when they were first published. The layouts are quite imaginative. am reminded of Pogo and Prince Valiant.

Seeing THE SPIRIT actually makes one envious of all the older readers who were able to appreciate these stories twenty years ago! Why wasn't I born just a couple of years

> ALBERT BOUCHARD Port Washington, N.Y.



"THE SPIRIT is unique!"

had never heard of THE SPIRIT before I picked up this first Warren edition. But I must say that this was the finest introduction I could have had. I sincerely hope THE SPIRIT will enjoy unlimited success.

SEAN McINERNEY Red Bank, N.J.

Because of the high standards of quality, represented in the Warren magazines, I had long hoped you would be adding an additional title to your aiready-fine horror line. THE SPIRIT not only gives us that additional quality title, but throws in the number one writer and artist in the comics field today, Will Eisner.

FRED McLAREN Ontario, Canada

Fantastic! It's the only word I can think of for a magazine with such graphic story-tell-

CHAD DRAPER Norman, Okla.

Will Eisner, where have you been all of my life? I love your stories and your artwork is in a class all by itself.

RANDY RASMUSSEN St. Paul, Minn.

It's high time you guys at Warren Publishing put out a down-to-earth nostalgic mag-azine. The good-old-days were great, and THE SPIRIT captures their greatness in its entirety. And adds a little, to boot!

> R. HILL Cols, Ohio

Thank you, James Warren. Thank you, Bill DuBay. Thank you, Rich Corben, for return-ing THE SPIRIT to the comics

world with such style.

But most of all, thank you,
Will Eisner...for THE SPIR-

It's been eight years since last saw THE SPIRIT. In those days, he appeared in the short-lived Harvey adven-ture series. I still own and treasure that first issue, just as I'll always own and treasure this first issue produced by Warren Publishing.

SCOTT LORVINE Oconomowoc, Wisc.

You've hit upon the perfect combination: high quality black and white reprints of SPIRIT stories from the 1940's coupled with full-color (and excellently colored too) story. All by the master, Will Eisner.

The introduction by Mr. Eisner on the second cover served to set the mood of the magazine immediately.

All in all, it appears Warren Publishing has another hit on its hands!

BILL G. WILSON Clairton, Penn.

Welcome back, Will Eisner. Welcome back, SPIRIT, to the world of mass-distributed magazines. I followed your adventures in the underground comics. But now its a total joy to see you both in a highquality magazine that will be gracing my newsstand every other month.

> **LEE ROBERTS** Los Altos, Calif.



The next time you're strolling around Wildwood Cemetery drop by the grave of your favorite SPIRIT, Denny Colt. Or, if grave-yards leave you cold, write: THE SPIRIT DEAD LETTERS c/o Warren Publishing Co. 145 East 32nd Street New York, N.Y. 10016



We're inviting the readers of THE SPIRIT Magazine to answer this sp just a minute of your time, and it should be fun. And of course we're in	ecial questionnaire. It will take
1. Were you familiar with THE SPIRIT before you bought this magazine SPIRIT?	e? If so, where had you read THE
2. What other magazines do you read regularly?	

4.	Excell Which	ent story	☐ Go appear	od ing in	☐ Fair this is:] Poor i you enj	oy MOS	7
5.	Why?		7.		11 5			19 45	
	Which	story	in this	issue	did you	like t	the LEAS	T?	
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Name .. Address __

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Zip. State .

Other: 3. What is your general impression of this magazine?

> Please clip and mail to: THE SPIRIT MAGAZINE Warren Publishing Co. 145 E. 32nd Street New York, N.Y. 10016

AN INTERVIEW WITH WILL EISNER ARTIST, WRITER AND CREATOR OF THE SPIRIT

Excerpted from an article by Joe Siegel, WCBS-TV (New York) Correspondent Published in "Changes." December 1973

r. Eisner. How did comics REALLY

get started? Comic books got started around 1932. It was the depression and a lot of the newspapers were printing full color comic sections. One of the major printing plants in the east had a lot of open press time, so somebody had an idea . . They began taking the daily strips and pasting them together in narrative form into full-pages. To their amazement, the stuff sold enormously on the newsstands.

Famous Funnies was published, and then the syndicates started doing it. I got a lob with a comic-type magazine called Wow, and two months later the magazine folded. One day the editor, Iger, came to me with a business proposition. He didn't have a lot of money, about \$150. But I said, "Well I can raise \$35, let's start a business!"

So I rented a tiny room on Madison Avenue, It was so small that if a customer came in, one of us had to go out. There were three drawing boards, a desk and two chairs. The partnership was called Iger and Eisner and from there on it was all blue skies.

We did a bunch of strips and became the largest comic packaging plant in the business. Then we started syndicating our own stuff overseas.

What were some of the comic characters you created during that time? The most famous one was Sheena, Queen of the Jungle, but there was a whole slew of them. And I guess I was the first to tell the classics in comic form.

I always wanted to do a thesis on "The Mythic Properties of the Comic Book. Where did all that originate?

I think it originated with Superman. Around 1938, just prior to the rise of the comics, two guys from Cleveland wrote to me. A fellow named Siegel and a fellow named Schuster. They sent me samples of their work. One was a feature called Spy and the other was a feature called Superman. I wrote them a long letter and told them they weren't ready to come to New York. It was a tough town and their style wasn't professional enough yet.

they sent the same material around to everybody else, and Superman was bought and became an immediate success. Siegel wrote it and Schuster drew it.

Now, Siegel was an intellectual and very sensitive kid. We were all concerned with the Nazi schtick, the Nazi concepts. You see, Mein Kampf was published here around 1935, and there was a lot of talk on the subject of supermen. The psychological impact of these ideas on the imaginative fantasy creators were immense.

And publishers, by trade, are formula seekers. So they said, "Ah! We know what's successful...a Superman character!" So what's a Superman character? A Superman character is a character with all kinds of weird and wonderful properties. So you got Batman and Jack Cole's Plastic Man, the Human Fly...

And didn't you create The Black Hawk? Yes. Now, I don't want to demean what I did (because I think it was great monumental creativity on my part), but it isn't too hard to create, once you start on a thread. Superman started a trend by virtue of its success.

Okay, now we're with THE SPIRIT in 1939.

So along somes Buzzy Arnold and says, "How would you like to do a weekly comic book for newspapers?" And that meant my making a big career decision: I had to sell the thriving Iger and Eisner Company! Which I did.
The first SPIRIT I recall doing late at

night. It was a first effort and there was a great deal of excitement. I was aware I was dealing with a totally different audience.

Where did the character come from? It was a compound of the others. But the mask was just a device. I had to get a character who lived beyond the law. But I couldn't stomach the super character with super properties, so all I said was: everybody thought he was dead! What I had in mind was a fast-moving realistic sophisticated character.

Ultimately I moved away from a de-pendence on THE SPIRIT as a character himself, to just writing short stories each week. I've always been a short-story fan of Ambrose Bierce, de Maupassant, O'Henry. In effect, they wrote comic

book plots and situation comedies. And so that became the trademark of the feature itself. It also made it difficult for the character of THE SPIRIT to become as immensely nationally popular as Superman or the others.

As far as mission was concerned, I took THE SPIRIT, as a writer, very seriously. I was writing my heart out, literally, because it was my medium. You know, at the time you don't theorize, you just put one foot in front of the other. So you say, "Gee, that's good, I think I'll do that again."

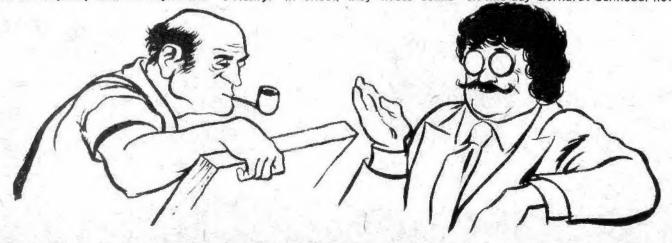
On the other side of the coin, there is a large body of artists, especially among the newer artists in Europe, who are concerned primarily with the craft of drawing. They spend a lot of time developing a technique or style. Artists like Esteban Maroto, who's one of the great new illustrators, is totally unconcerned with complex plot. He tells his story in great art.

There are others, like Jack Kirby, who create page after page of "lyrical violence.

Then, there are the "good" stories! There's the work of a fellow named Jeff Jones, who is a great illustrator! I recall seeing a single page he did with a beautiful girl walking around and she's say-ing "I'm wonderful, I'm beautiful, I'm all." And in the last panel a huge foot steps

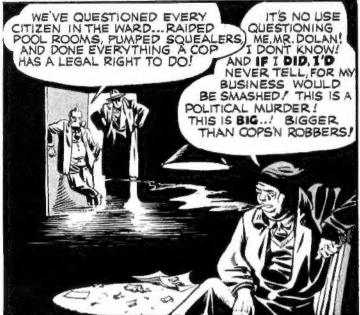
There's a story I did a long time ago about Gerhardt Schnobel. I remember this because long ago I had to choose a favorite story to satisfy people who asked if I have one. I was very emotional when I did it ... because I believed it!

It's the story of a little man, who all his life knows he can fly. One day he gets fired from the bank. He is tired of being a clerk and he is going to show the world. So he climbs to the top of a building, spreads out his arms, and soars off. He flying! At the same moment THE SPIRIT is chasing a couple of crooks and one of the crooks fires at THE SPIRIT and miss-es him. The bullet hits Gerhardt Schnobel as he's flying around the tenth floor. He flutters to the pavement. Meanwhile all the action is going on around him and the story winds down, the other players exit, and no one ever really knows that on this day Gerhardt Schnobel flew.







































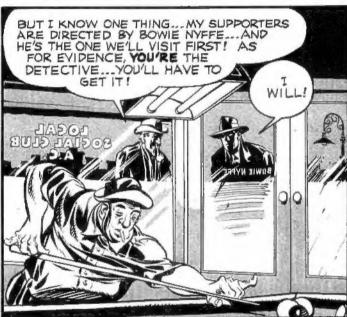


NO...WAIT! I CAN'T LET THIS GO ON...MY CONSCIENCE WONT LET ME! I'VE BEEN NICE TO THE DISHONEST PEOPLE WHO ELECTED ME ... NOW, IT'S TIME I LIVED UP TO THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE HONEST ONES!









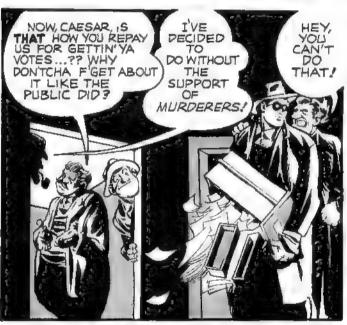


















AND IT WOULDN'T







































THE NAME IS... POWDER!



OPTHIGHT - 1374 WILL EISNE







W/ES ... FREE! EVERY DAY, EVERY WEEK, THE DOORS CLANG OPEN. HAVE TAKEN THE "CURE" ARE FREE TO 60 OMETIMES THEY ARE LIKE POWDER. AND SOMETIMES THEY GET A HAND, LIKE BLEAK CENTRAL CITY

> REFORM SCHOOL





















































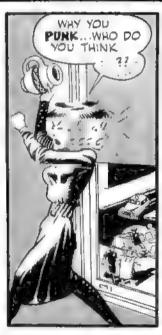












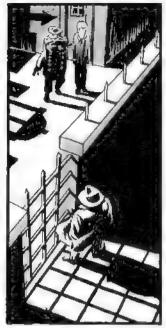










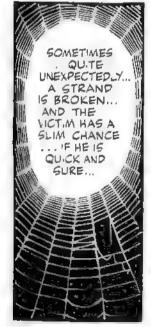


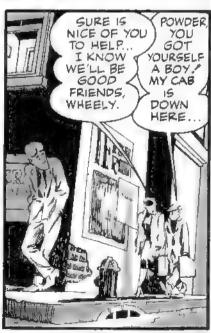












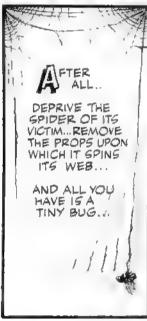




















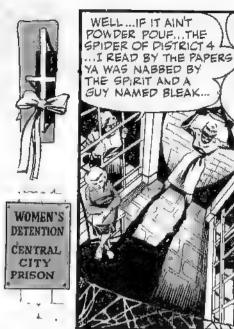






Fallen Sparrow





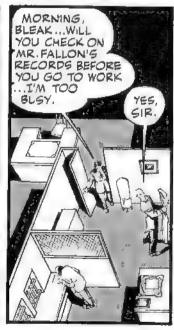








































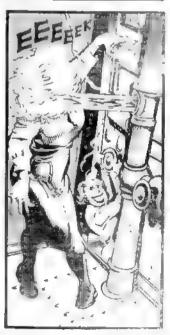






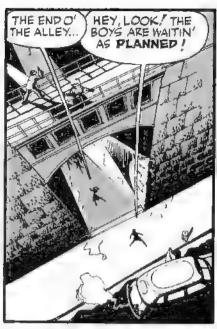




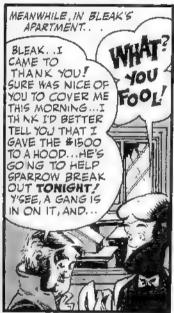








































MEANWHILE, AT

























MERRY ANDREW

. DR

THE MAN WHO LAID THE

HAT PURVEYOR OF YSTERICAL HISTRIONICS

WILL EISNER ESQ.

PROGRAMME :

THE PLOT

HEEP

AHEM

BEING THE BEGINNING OF A NEFARIOUS DEED

THE PLOT THICKENS

IN WHICH THE HERO IS

RETRIBUTION

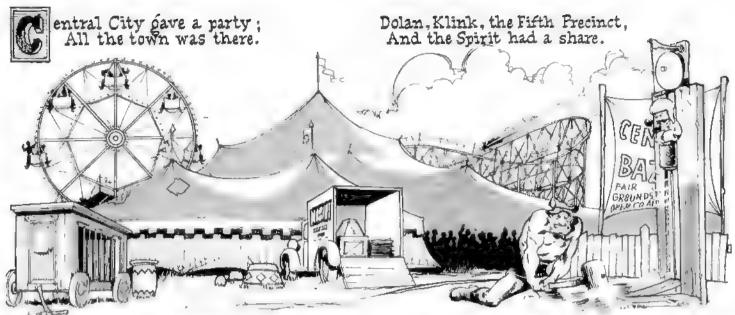
IN WHICH THE VILLAIN REAPS HIS JUST DESERTS

Starring FOR THIS PERFORMANCE ONLY The

THAT RENOWNED DEFENDER OF THE PUBLIC WEAL, THAT PARAGON OF PURPOSE, THAT MASKED AND SEMI-INVINCIBLE SCOURGE AND TERROR OF THE THIEVES AND BOUNDERS OF THE UNDERWORLD

CHILDREN ADMITTED ONLY IF ACCOMPANIED BY PARENTS

First Published February 15, 1948 COPYRIGHT C 1974 WILL EISNER



Seems the cops had reached the top
In a drive to aid the poor:
Some dough they made for 'Ladie's Aid'.
Ten thousand to be sure.



Now in the midst of all this joy, Near charity's free brew. A dapper gent on mischief bent— Stood merry sly Andrew.



Snide Andrew 'spiked' the public punch... Slipped in a Mickey Finn.



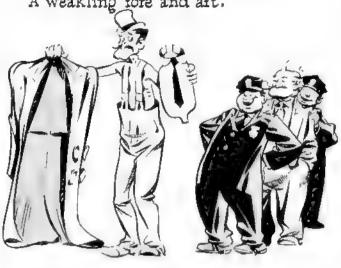


Ahh, Merry Andrew's thinking was So simple when laid bare; He merely rose and struck a pose, And challenged those who'd dare.



When all had laughed and passed remarks
About how soft he was,
Our Merry Andrew calmly drew

To look at Merry Andrew's form You'd think he was quite daft... Sunken chest--no biceps left--A weakling fore and aft.



Win more dough for the purse they had?? ... And by a gloved combat??
Big and small and short and tall
They all threw in their hats.



But Dolan thought he'd play it shrewd...

Eliminate a loss;

He ordered up the Spirit, and...

The ten-grand purse, of course.

YOU MAKE THE
RULES!

(10 SPARE HIS HIPE TILL MAKE IT QUICK)

1 CHOOSE A THREE-ROUND

GO!

THREE-ROUND

GO!

Oh Merry Andrew laughed out loud, 'Twas just as he had planned; The Spirit would soon where he stood, Lie face-down in the sand. To stall 'til time (and Mickey Finn)
Would dull the Spirit's will.
Andrew jabbed and he ducked or danced.
Just waiting for the kill.



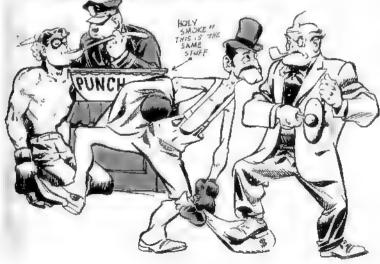


He hadn't long to wait, the rat.
The Spirit soon did reel...
Befogged, with brain and forearms dead...

Oh Merry Andrew laughed out loud, 'Twas quite as he had planned; One left hook and a rabbit punch--- The Spirit hit the sand!



Oh Merry Andrew looked quite proud, And made to take the purse; But time bells bonged and so he vowed The next round he'd do worse. And true to plan, like jungle beasts,
The Spirit. Andrew slugged;
The crowd grew sore, it booed and swore,
Not knowing he was drugged.





The second round and in the third Ol' Andrew had the lead; The Spirit took from jab to hook What Andrew chose to feed.



Did Andrew wind one up; Then let it so ... the crowd sasped OH ... The Spirit doubled up!



Then toward the end when time frew close.

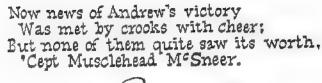
Oh Merry Andrew laughed out loud ... A scornful, spiteful crow.



Joy had left all Central City
As they closed the fair; Gad!.. Even heaven wept bereft... Our hero...lay ... right ... there And as grim darkness settled down. The villain thumbed his dough;



There is nothing like success in life, The fruits of it are sweet: You've friends and chums and pals palore





"Precisely what I plan and plot:

To Andrew he gave leadership Of a gang so known to fame That even at the 5th Precinct A quiver met its name.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE SPIRIT,

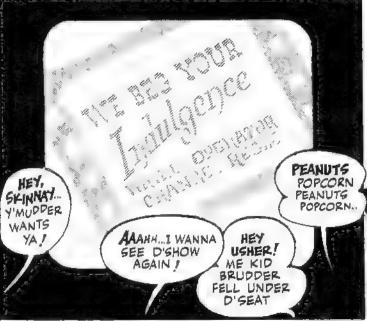
Will lay the Spirit low!" YOU'SE DID IT BEFORE

We'll let the Spirit know, For Merry Andrew, our new chief,

> AND YOUSE CAN OO IT AGAIN!



The People's Bank at Sixth and Vine It trembled from a blast; And from its vaults with dough et al McSneer's big gang fled fast.

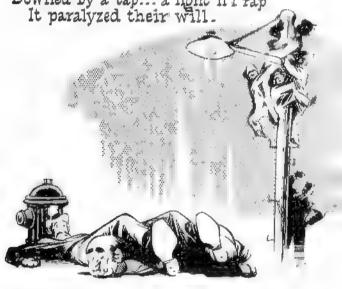




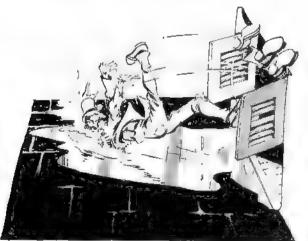
A silence frim and fraught with doom Descended over all:
Like vultures gathered round to watch The mighty Spirit's fall.



And what was worse and hard to take,
Their champion lay quite still:
Downed by a tap... a light li'l rap
It paralyzed their will.

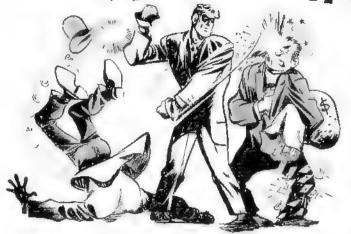


Nothing's so slight as success in life That's won by talent thin: Embark on crime in any line And you o'n never win.



Like cymbal's clash in symphonies Their ears rang with the crack; Oh terror, fear, dismay, and rage.

OUR ANDREW'S ON HIS BACK!



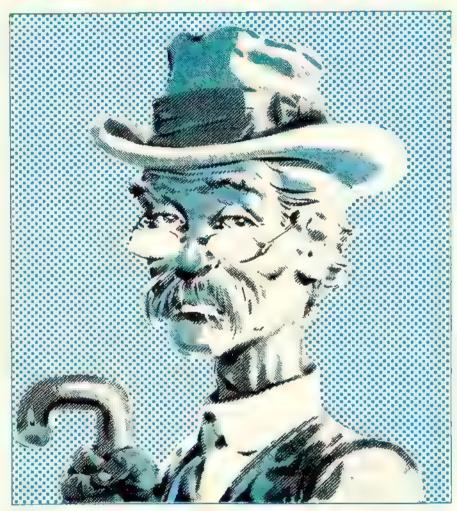
Oh Merry Andrew cried and cried To think the world would know That he had won by tricks so base The city's poorhouse dough!



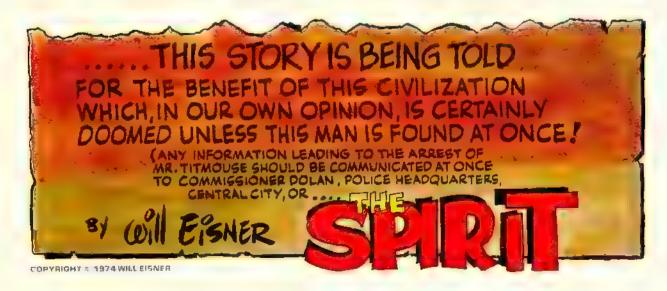
And Merry Andrew to this day
So bowed by shame and woe
Will still recall, for pittance small,
He laid the Spirit low.

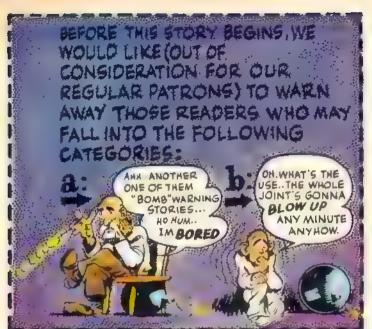


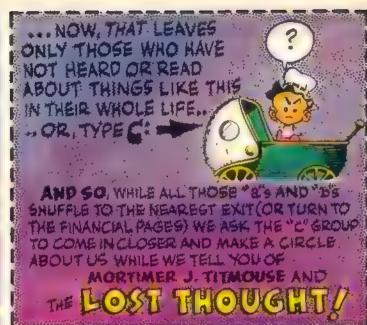
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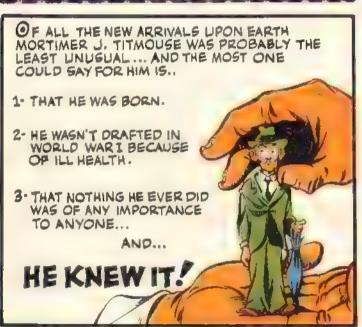


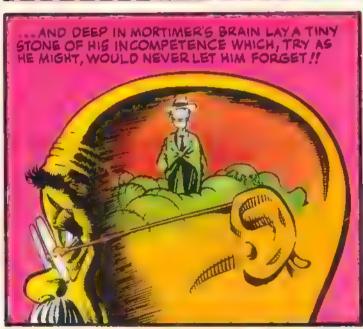
(MORTIMER J. TITMOUSE, 5 FT. 5 INCHES TALL, OF SLIGHT BUILD, LIGHT HAIR, NEARSIGHTED, NERVOUS TWITCH OF RIGHT EYE (BOTH EYES ARE GREY)







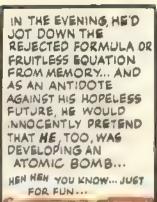














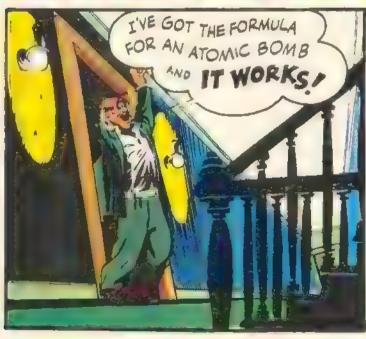






























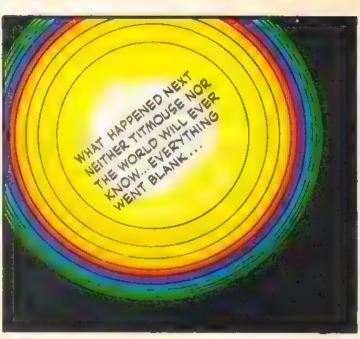




































AND SOMEWHERE ... SOMEWHERE ON THIS TATTERED GLOBE WALKS MORTIMER
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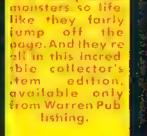
















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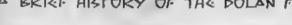
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YOUNG PAT
O'DOLAN WAS A
SIMPLE, GODFEARING MAN
WHO JOINED THE
CONSTABULARY
AND IN 18BO
HAD A SON
NAMED EUSTACE,

THE O'DOLAN WAS A WILD ONE
HE BECAME A NOTORIOUS
PIRATE AND FREEBOOTER...
MADE AND LOST
VAST FORTUNES..
AND FINALLY BUILT
A HOUSE IN CENTRAL
CITY. AFTER THIS,
NOTHING MORE
WAS HEARD FROM





JOINED THE POLICE FORCE IN CENTRAL CITY, WHERE HE LEARNED THAT THE O'DOLAN HAD FILED A WILL DEEDING THE OLD HOUSE TO CHILDREN

AND SO TODAY COMMISSIONER
DOLAN'S DAUGHTER
ELLEN STANDS
SEFORE AN OLD
WATERFRONT
BUILDING THAT
ONCE BELONGED
TO THE O'DOLAN.

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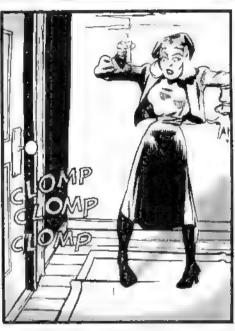




















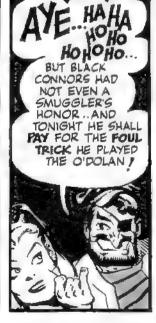








































































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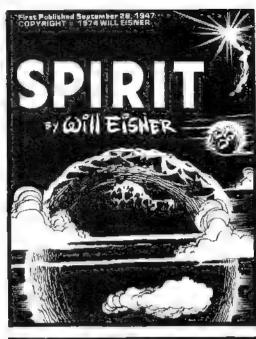
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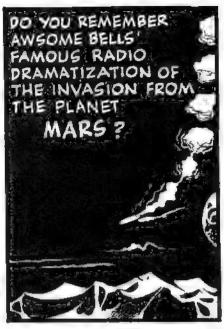
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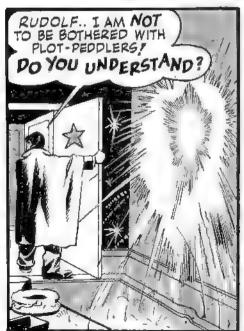




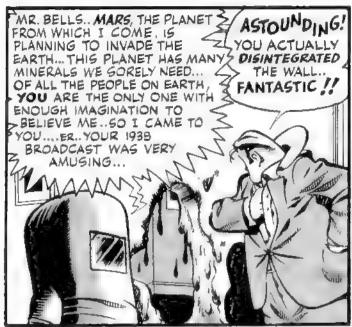






















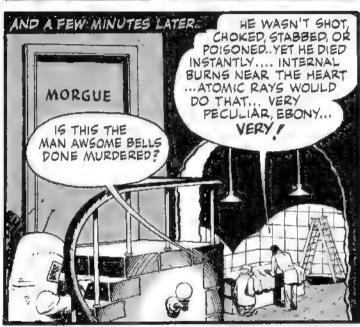










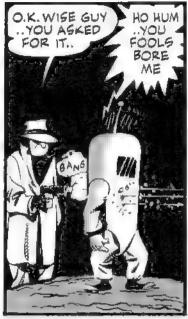
























... AND NOW, MR. BELLS, YA MERE AGENT? NEVER! TWO AMBER KLIEGS ON EITHER SIDE ... I, AWSOME BELLS, WILL ONE MILLION PEOPLE GATHERED IN THE VALLEY AND THERE ATOP PIKE'S PEAK I STAND .. A PAUSE .. I SPEAK .. (I'LL WRITE MY OWN SCRIPT, OF COURSE!











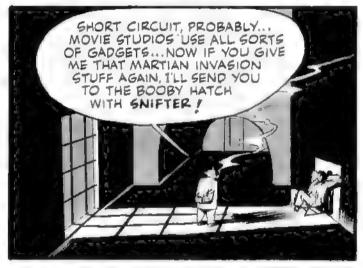


















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June 30 -- More reports on flying saucers--Bert Monk, Winnetka Ill. postman describes disk with ribbed framework, motor, and propellor in center flying slowly at altitude of 400 feet----Trenton NJ housewife claims metal

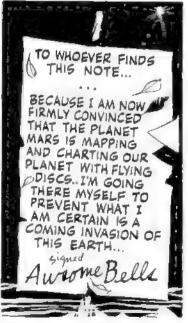


July 6 - Military authorities investigating discs-- P-51's cruising over Cascade Mountains with photographic equipment--Kan, reports six circular objects, each the size of a five room









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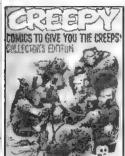


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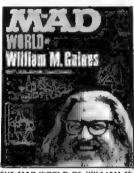
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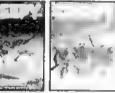


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